(c) whether any other proposals are under the consideration of Government to make quality paper available to publishers at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) It has been brought to the notice of Government that the Indian Book Industry is facing some constraints because of the rising prices of various inputs. In so far as paper is concerned, Government have taken a number of steps to increase its production and improve its quality. These include fiscal reliefs, facility of duty-free import of pulp, wood chips and waste paper, etc. As a result of the various steps taken, the production of paper has increased from 13.70 lakh tonnes in 1984 to 15.00 lakh tonnes (estimated) in 1985. The National Book Development Council has submitted a report entitled "Towards a National Boolk Policy." This report has made several recommendations to improve the condition of the publishing industry. According to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, these recommendations are being examined in consultation with other Departments/agencies.

Alleged irregularities by Chairman, O.I.L., Duliajan

1734. SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the present Chairman-cum-Managing Director joined the Oil India Limited, Duliajan, some serious anomalies have taken place involving lot of expenditure;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a drill-ship at a fantastic daily rate is being hired by the OIL for the purpose of drilling only one well at Andamans;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to the mismanagement of the present Chairman-cum-Managing Director, the OIL stands to lose one crore of rupees in respect of a purchase deal signed with an Iron and Steel Company; and

(d) whether Government would make a thorough inquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) There is no mismanagement. OIL is required to buy part of its requirement of casing pipes from indigenous source (TISCO) at BICP prices which are relatively higher.

(d) Does not arise.

Exploration and Exploitation Programme

1735. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exploration and exploitation programme carved out by Oil and Natural Gas Commission has not proved effective and offers little prospects for the next few years;

(b) whether any strategy has been planned for proper and effective search for hydrocarbons in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir. Ex-

ploration by ONGC has led to substantial addition of reserves and production has more than doubled during the last five years.

(b) and (c) The main features of the current strategy of exploration are:

(i) Intensification of exploratory surveys and drilling in basins where commercial production has commenced.

(ii) Extending and suitably stepping up the tempo of exploration in basins with reasonable prospects.

(iii) Selecting relatively more suitable basins among the remaining sedimentary basins for acquisition of additional data so as to make them amenable to analysis for prospectivity.

Optional Utilisation of Natural Gas

1736. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that optimal utilisation of the available natural gas resources has not been made; if so, to what extent; and

(b) if so, whether full-utilisation of gas finds in Tripura and Krishna-Godavari basin has been made and if not, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Results of exploratory efforts in Krishna Godavari basin at present do not permit a firm establishment of reserves of natural gas, which will enable ONGC to supply natural gas to industrial consumers on regular basis. ONGC are trying to locate suitable consumers for the available gas in coordination with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

In Tripura, ONGC have committed supply of about 0.05 million cubic metres per day of gas for power generation at Baramura and supplies commenced in March, 1986; in addition, they have proposed to supply at the rate of 0.10 MMCMD from Rokhia for power generation from end of 1987.

Complaints lodged by Stockists in Delhi with MRTP Commission against various Companies

1737. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints lodged by stockists in Delhi with MRTP Commission against various companies in 1985 are still pending decision;

(b) whether it is also a fact that stockists in Delhi are losing heavily as a result of the delay in deciding cases by M.R.T.P. Commission; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of stockists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) While some complaints lodged by stockists with the MRTP Commission in 1985 are still pending, Government has no information of any loss having been suffered by the stockists on this account.

SC/ST Employees in Public Sector Enterprises

1738. SHRI T. K. C. VADUTHALA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of employees in each category, viz. groups A, B, C and D belonging to